

REMARKS

Claims 1-3, 5-8 and 10-19 are pending in the application. By the above amendment, claims 1-3, and 5-8 have been amended, claims 10-19 have been canceled without prejudice, and new claims 20-26 have been added to further define the inventions. No new matter has been introduced by virtue of the claim amendments.

Elections/Restrictions

Although Applicants respectfully disagree with the previous Restriction Requirement, claims 10-19 have been canceled without prejudice in view of the finality of the restriction. Applicants need not address the Examiner's supporting assertions (set forth on pages 2-7 of the Office Action) regarding the Restriction Requirement, as the record in this action speaks for itself as to the validity of the restriction. Applicants traverse the restriction requirement and maintain that the restriction requirement is improper for all previous reasons provided by Applicants. Applicants reserve their right to file a petition to challenge the restriction requirement, if desired.

Claim Rejections

Claims 1-3, and 5-8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Herz et al. (hereinafter "Herz"). Although Applicants respectfully disagree with the rejections for at least those reasons provided in previous responses, the claims have been amended to more particularly define the claimed subject matter and further clarify the distinctions of the claimed subject matter over the current art of record.